

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3376

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NI

SUBJECT: GOWON'S BUDGET SPEECH: EXTERNAL RELATIONS

BEGIN SUMMARY: IN HIS BUDGET SPEECH MARCH 30 GOWON REVIEWED
FMG'S EXTERNAL RELATIONS. END SUMMARY

1. IN HIS BUDGET SPEECH FOR THE YEAR 1974-75 (SEE SEPTTEL)
GOWON REVIEWED BRIEFLY NIGERIA'S EXTERNAL RELATIONS.
HE NOTED THAT THE FMG HAD INCREASED AND MAINTAINED AREAS OF
CONTINUED COOPERATION WITH ITS IMMEDIATE NEIGHBORS AND HAD
GIVEN SPECIAL ATTENTION TO PROBLEMS AFFECTING AFRICA. IN
HIS CAPACITY AS OAU CHAIRMAN HE HAD BEEN IN CLOSE TOUCH
WITH MANY AFRICAN LEADERS AND HAD SPARED NO EFFORT IN
DEALING WITH A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS ARISING IN VARIOUS PARTS
OF AFRICA. HE FURTHER NOTED THAT NIGERIA HAD PLAYED A MODEST
PART IN MATTERS RELATING TO RELIEF OF THOSE COUNTRIES AFFECTED
BY DROUGHT.

2. GOWON FURTHER STATED THAT FMG HAD CONTINUED TO GIVE FULL
SUPPORT TO ALL LEGITIMATE MOVEMENTS CONCERNED WITH
ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM IN AFRICA AND HE RECALLED FMG
SUPPORT OF UN. IN CONCLUDING BRIEF REVIEW OF FMG EXTERNAL
RELATIONS HE SAID GOVERNMENT WAS RESOLVED TO CONTINUE TO BE
GUIDED BY GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS OF PEACE, UNDERSTANDING,
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COOPERATION, STABILITY AND DIGNITY OF THE BLACK MAN EVERYWHERE

IN THE WORLD.

3. COMMENT: SECTION ON EXTERNAL RELATIONS IN GOWON'S BUDGET
SPEECH GAVE NO INDICATION THAT FMG WOULD DEVIATE FROM PAST
PRACTICE. THERE WAS NO HINT ABOUT THE FMG'S PLANS REGARDING
EXTERNAL CONTRIBUTIONS EITHER TO LIBERATION MOVEMENTS
OR OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES.
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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: PFOR, NI, OAU, (GOWON, YAKUBU)
To: STATE
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